

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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61

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /035 W

----- 004625

R 081545Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4609

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

US SECRET SERVICE WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 3173

DEPT FOR SY; PARIS FOR SAID DAG; USSS FOR COUNTERFEIT DIVISION

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CFED, ASEC

SUBJECT: COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY

1. AN AMERICAN CITIZEN PHYSICIAN WORKING WITH LEBANESE RED CROSS IN JOUNIEH ON VOLUNTEER BASIS, DR. TRAVIS BENKENDORFOR, CALLED AT EMBASSY OCT. 8. BENKENDORFOR IS IN CYPRUS TO EXPEDITE MOVEMENT OF MEDICINES AND VACCINES ATHENS-LARNACA-JOUNIEH.

2. BENKENDORFOR SAID LEBANESE FRIENDS IN CHRISTIAN FORCES HAD INFORMED HIM OF THEIR SEIZURE OF 50,000 DOLLARS IN COUNTERFEIT US ONE-HUNDRED-DOLLAR BILLS. BILLS ARE THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN PRINTED IN WEST BEIRUT FOR USE IN PAYING FOR CONTRBAND FROM CHRISTIAN TERRITORY. KATA'IB HAD STAMPED ALL BILLS IN THIS SEIZURE "VOID". HOWEVER, OTHER BILLS HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED CIRCULATING AT A SUBSTANTIAL DISCOUNT. BENKENDORFOR HAS SEEN SUCH BILLS.

3. BENKENDORFOR WILL BE GOING BACK TO LEBANON OVER THE WEEKEND. HE VOLUNTEERED TO DELIVER ONE OF THE COUNTERFEIT BILLS TO THE EMBASSY UPON HIS RETURN TO CYPRUS EARLY NEXT WEEK.

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4. WE REALIZE FOREGOING MAY DUPLICATE REPORTING ROM BEIRUT.

CRAWFORD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 OCT 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION SY  
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**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
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